Commission have decided not to extend the Border Area Development Programme to Tibet/China border.

Offer of unconditional talks with the ultras in different states

2561. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ultras of J&K have responded to P.M.'s recent offer of talks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether offer of "unconditional talks" is also being extended to the ultras of other States of the Union;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any negotiations have been held; and

(f) if so, the details results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. R BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) During his visit to J&K on 26-27 July, 1997, the Prime Minister had made an appeal to the misguided youth of the State who have joined the militant rnaks to give up their guns and said that the Government was prepared to have unconditional talks with them, to enable them to rejoin the mainsstream. So far there have been no response from the said misguided youth.

(c) and (d) During his visit to the North Eastern States in May, 1997, the Prime Minister had reiterated Government's willingness to hold unconditional talks with underground elements.

(e) and (f) The Issac-Mouivah group of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland has responded to the offer and after preliminary talks with them, it has been agreed to cease fire for 3 months w.e.f. 1st August 1997 and embark upon political level discussions. Government are also in touch with other insurgent Naga groups which have also committed to suspend their activities.

Amarnath Yatra under BSF Escort

2562. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether death of one pilgrim and injury to eighteen Amarnath pilgrims in an explosion in a hotel at Banihal on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway has been reported in the recent past despite taking very fool-poof security steps;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any ex-gratia payment has since been paid to the families of those killed and injured;

(d) whether Government propose to organise such pilgrim visits in future under the escort of Border Security Force; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONI-

(a) to (c) No Sir, it is not a fact that pilgrims of Amarnath Yatra were injured due to the explosion. On 23.7.97, an IED blast took place in Hotel Kailash, Banihal in which 15 persons sustaned injuries including the owner of the hotel, who later succumbed to his injuries. Out of the injured, two were police person-

mel, 9 local Muslims and 3 were Hindus. The victims of the blast have been provided ex-gratia relief by the State Government as per the standing rules in this regard.

(d) and (e) The Government of J & K have made administrative and security arrangements for the Yatra. Every precaution is being taken by the State Government to ensure safety and security of the Yatris right from Jammu to Holy Cave. Pickets, manned by security forces and Jammu & Kashmir Police have been established all along the highway to ensure incident free Yatra.

राष्ट्रीय श्रम कल्याण कोष में बकाया धनराशि

2563. श्री अवतारराय देवशंकर दवे : क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1 अप्रैल, 1994 और 1 अप्रैल, 1997 की स्थिति के अनुसार राष्ट्रीय श्रम कल्याण कोष में कुल कितनी धनराशि शेष है :

(ख) वर्ष 1997-98 के दौरान केंद्रीय कोष से इस कोष में कुल कितनी धनराशि जमा की गई ;

(ग) गुजरात सहित विभिन्न राज्यों के विभिन्न श्रम कल्याण कार्यक्रमों के लिए इस कोष से योजना-वार कुल कितनी धनराशि आवंटित की गई, तथा पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान गुजरात को कुल कितनी धनराशि आवंटित की गई ; और

(घ) उक्त अवधि के दौरान गुजरात में संघटित और असंगठित श्रमिकों के लिए प्रारंभ किए गए कार्यक्रमों का जिला-वार ब्यौरा क्या है ?

श्रम मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम.पी. वीरेन्द्र कुमार) : (क) ऐसी कोई निधि विद्यमान नहीं है।

(ख) से (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Child Labour in the Country

2564. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of child labour in the country as per the census reports of 1971, 1981 and 1991;

(b) whether Government had asked all the State Government complete the survey by June 10 this year;

(c) if so, the State-wise number of child labour engaged in hazardous occupations; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the names of States which failed to carry out the survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (F THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) The State-wise number of Child Labour in the country as per the 1971, 1981 and 1991 Census reports is given in the Annexure.

(See Appendix 181, Annexure No. 69).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Information on first phase of the survey on child labour has been received from 27 states/UTs. A statement indicating the number of working children identified in the first phase of the survey, as per available information, is given in the Statement (See below) Details on the outcome of the survey from the States of Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Kerala and Meghalaya have not been received.